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141105Z Aug 01

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ACTION AF-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EUR-00
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-00	L-00	NSAE-00	NSCE-00
	OIC-02	PM-00	PRS-00	P-00	SP-00	SS-00	STR-00
	TRSE-00	USIE-00	PMB-00	PRM-01	DRL-02	G-00	SSR-00
	SAS-00	/006W					

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FM AMEMBASSY HARARE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9457
INFO SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY
NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 002397

SIPDIS

STATE FOR AF, AF/S, AF/RA, AND DRL
LONDON FOR GURNEY
PARIS FOR WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT
NSC FOR SENIOR DIRECTOR FRAZIER
NAIROBI FOR PFLAUMER

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/14/06

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [UK](#) [US](#) [ZI](#)

SUBJECT: MUGABE HEWS TO HARD LINE IN HEROES' DAY
ADDRESS

CLASSIFIED BY CDA REWHITEHEAD DUE TO 1.5 (B) AND (D).
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SUMMARY

1. (C) PRESIDENT MUGABE'S NATIONAL HEROES' DAY ADDRESS TO A LARGE BUT LISTLESS CROWD AT HEROES' ACRE WAS DEFIANT IN TONE AND UNCHANGED IN SUBSTANCE. MUGABE LAMBASTED THE BRITISH FOR THEIR HISTORICAL SINS AND TOOK AIM AT THE U.S. OVER THE SENATE PASSAGE OF ZDERA. HE TALLIED UP FIGURES FOR LAND ACQUIRED AND PEOPLED RESETTLED IN THE FAST TRACK LAND PROGRAM AND WARNED COMMERCIAL FARMERS NOT TO RESIST. MUGABE CALLED ON COMMERCIAL FARMERS TO COOPERATE AND IMPLIED TROUBLE IF THEY DID NOT. IN FOLLOWING CONVERSATIONS, UK HIGH COMMISSIONER DONNELLY TERMED THE ADDRESS "AN OLIVE BRANCH WITH THORNS." OTHER WESTERN DIPLOMATS WITH MORE SEASONING IN ZIMBABWE WONDERED IF THIS WERE NOT AN OVERLY OPTIMISTIC READ.

THE ANGLO-SAXON CONSPIRACY

2. (SBU) A CROWD ESTIMATED BETWEEN 4,000 (OPPOSITION PRESS) AND 10,000 (GOVERNMENT PRESS) WERE TREATED TO AN HOUR AND TWENTY MINUTES OF PRESIDENTIAL RHETORIC ON AUGUST 11. A HEARTY LOOKING MUGABE, WHO DELIVERED HIS ADDRESS IN FIRM TONES, BEGAN WITH A CONDEMNATION OF WESTERN HYPOCRISY. HE ACCUSED THE DEMOCRATIC WORLD OF NOT RAISING A FINGER IN THE PAST AS THE "BRITISH RACIAL
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AUTOCRACY" BRUTALIZED AND TRAUMATIZED BLACK ZIMBABWEANS. HE ACCUSED THE COLONIALISTS OF PILLAGING THE COUNTRY'S MINERAL WEALTH AND FORCING THE ZIMBABWEANS TO WORKS THE LAND "TO FEED THEIR (BRITISH) CHILDREN." HE ACCUSED UK, US, AND GERMAN MERCENARIES OF FIGHTING ON THE SIDE OF THE RHODESIANS DURING THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE, USING NATO WEAPONS AGAINST THE POPULATION.

3. (SBU) MUGABE DELIVERED A DIATRIBE AGAINST THE AMERICAN SENATE AND CONGRESS, WHO HE STATED HAD NEVER CONSIDERED IMPOSING SANCTIONS AGAINST THE UDI RHODESIANS. INSTEAD, THE U.S. HAD ASKED TO BE EXEMPTED FROM UN SANCTIONS IN ORDER TO BUY CHROME FROM THE IAN SMITH REGIME, REFUSING THE OPTION OF BUYING FROM THE SOVIET UNION, WHICH WAS "A FREE STATE AT THAT TIME." HE CHARGED THE SAME SENATORS OF WORKING WITH THE OPPOSITION TODAY ON THE "INFAMOUS ZDERA." HE ASKED RHETORICALLY WHAT CRIME ZIMBABWE HAD COMMITTED TO CAUSE TALK OF SANCTIONS, THEN ANSWERED BY SAYING HOW DARE A BLACK GOVERNMENT WITH A WHITE COMMUNITY CHALLENGE THE KIN OF

THE GOD-CHOSEN ANGLO-SAXONS. THIS WAS SEEN AS
PRACTICING TERRORISM AND AUTOCRACY.

A WALLOW IN COLONIAL HISTORY

14. (SBU) MUGABE NEXT TOOK DIRECT AIM AT THE BRITISH,
NOTING THAT VICE PRESIDENT MUZENDA HAD BEEN TORTURED
WITH NEEDLES WHILE IN INCARCERATION. SPEAKER OF
PARLIAMENT MNANGAGWA WAS HARD OF HEARING DUE TO BEATINGS
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FROM PRISON AUTHORITIES. MUGABE THEN READ FROM THE
JOURNALS OF COLONIAL AUTHORITIES ABOUT THE 1897/1898
EXECUTION IN SALISBURY OF TWO MEN AND A WOMAN CONVICTED
OF MURDERING AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER. HE
CONTINUED BY CRITICIZING BRITISH REFUSAL TO RETURN THE
HEAD OF AN EXECUTION VICTIM STILL HELD IN (THE) BRITISH
MUSEUM. MUGABE DESCRIBED THE BURNING OF CROPS BY
BRITISH SOLDIERS IN 1896/7 AND HOW INVADERS HAD CAUSED
"ARTIFICIAL HUNGER."

HOLDING FIRM ON LAND

15. (SBU) MUGABE SEGUED INTO THE LAND ISSUE, EMPHASIZING
THAT "WE WILL NEVER LOSE SIGHT OF THE GOAL OF
CONTROLLING THE LAND." HE REPEATED THE STANDARD LINE ON
THE FAST TRACK PROGRAM, CALLING COMMERCIAL AGRICULTURE
UNFAIR, INEFFICIENT, AND NOT ENVIRONMENTALLY
SUSTAINABLE. HE DENOUNCED "RACIAL, IMPERIALIST
DOMINANCE" BUT NOTED THAT HE HAD HEARD THAT PARTS OF THE
COMMERCIAL FARMERS UNION (CFU) HAD CHANGED THEIR HEARTS
AND WANTED TO JOIN THE GOVERNMENT IN REFORM. THESE WERE

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INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	CIAE-00	DODE-00	SRPP-00	EB-00	EUR-00
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	SAS-00	/006W					

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WELCOME. IN THE PAST, HOWEVER, FARMERS HAD EMPLOYED
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WILES AND SUBTERFUGE AND WORKED WITH THE "SO-CALLED"
OPPOSITION TO EXTEND BRITISH HEGEMONY BY PROCURING UK
MONEY FOR THE OPPOSITION.

16. (SBU) HE SPOKE DIRECTLY TO RECENT EVENTS IN
CHINHOYI, CHARGING THAT THE COMMERCIAL FARMERS HAD
ORGANIZED TO ATTACK LANDLESS SETTLERS. HE STATED: "WE
WARN THEM (FARMERS) TO DESIST." MUGABE SAID THAT WHITE
FARMERS ARE WELCOME TO STAY BUT ONLY IF THEY OBEY THE
LAW. HE SAID THAT THE GOZ WILL NOT BUDGE ON LAND
REFORM, AND WILL PROCEED WITH THE REFORM PROGRAM WITH OR
WITHOUT CFU COOPERATION AND INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS.
MUGABE THEN READ A LIST OF THE NUMBER OF FARMS GAZETTED,
ACREAGE TOTALS, AND PEOPLE RESETTLED.

QUOTING HIMSELF ON RECONCILIATION

17. (C) MUGABE STRESSED THAT WHAT ANGERS AND DISTURBS THE CIO, POLICE, AND ZDF MOST IS THE FACT THAT THE FARMERS NOW PROVOKING INCIDENTS ARE THE SAME ONES WHO FOUGHT AGAINST THE CURRENT AUTHORITIES IN THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE. HE OBSERVED THAT IF HE HAD DONE AS THE MILITANTS HAD WANTED IN 1980, THE (FORMER RHODESIAN FIGHTERS) WOULD HAVE BEEN "DECAPITATED" AND WOULD NOT "BE WRIGGLING BACK TO LIFE AGAIN." HE SAID THAT WE (ZIMBABWEANS) WERE BETTER, MORE MORAL, AND HAD INSTEAD EXTENDED THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP AND RECONCILIATION. MUGABE QUOTED HIMSELF FROM 1980 ON BEATING SWORDS INTO PLOWSHARES BEFORE CONCLUDING WITH SOME PORK BARREL

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POLITICS -- INCREASED SCHOOL (AND OTHER) ALLOWANCES FOR THE WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OF HEROES -- AND A FINAL CONCLUDING SHOT AT ZDERA AND THE U.S.

COMMENT

18. (C) MUGABE WAS IN FINE FETTER, AND HIS PERFORMANCE -- DEMAGOGIC THOUGH IT OFTEN WAS -- PUTS TO REST FOR NOW TALK THAT HE IS TOTTERING ON THE BRINK OF PHYSICAL COLLAPSE. WESTERN DIPLOMATS WHO HAVE BEEN TREATED TO PAST PERFORMANCES NOTED THAT THERE WAS AN UNUSUALLY LARGE COMPONENT OF UNIFORMED MILITARY IN THE AUDIENCE THIS YEAR. THE CROWD CHEERED ON CUE, BUT THERE WAS A NOTABLE LACK OF ENTHUSIASM OVERALL.

19. (C) IN A FOLLOWING CONVERSATION, BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER DONNELLY SPOKE ON THE CHINHOYI SITUATION AS WELL AS HIS TAKE ON THE SPEECH. HE SAID THAT THE CFU TEAM NEGOTIATING THE LAND ISSUE WITH THE GOZ HAD REPORTED A "GOOD" MEETING WITH MUGABE ON AUGUST 19, ALBEIT ONE THAT HAD BROUGHT NO BREAKTHROUGH. CONNELLY CALLED THE SPEECH AN "OLIVE BRANCH WITH THORNS." SEVERAL OF HIS WESTERN COUNTERPARTS WHO HAVE BEEN IN ZIMBABWE FOR LONGER PERIODS TOLD CHARGE THAT THEY HAD PERCEIVED MORE THORN THAN OLIVE BRANCH AND FELT THAT MUGABE'S POSITION REMAINS UNCHANGED.

110. (C) THE SENATE'S PASSAGE OF ZDERA HAS CLEARLY CAUGHT MUGABE'S ATTENTION. DONNELLY OBSERVED THAT WHILE

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THE UK'S SINS HAD BEEN MOSTLY HISTORICAL THIS TIME AROUND, THE U.S. WAS NOW GRABBING TOP BILLING IN THE AREA OF CURRENT EVENTS.

WHITEHEAD

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